

Indiana Gourd Society

2020 State Gourd Show

CANCELLED

Due to travel restrictions from COVID-19 virus

President's Message

I hope all of you are surviving the Covid-19 Coronavirus and all the social distancing and lockdowns that go with it. I live on 70 acres in the country, I can go outside and not see anyone for days if I choose. But I am getting cabin fever, so I'm glad the weather is getting nicer and warmer and it's GOURD planting time. Hopefully May is a good growing beginning and a healthier virus free month.

The next major gourd event is in August, volunteering at the IGS Booth and entering competitions at the 2020 Indiana State Fair. We are hoping to be virus free by then, so it, too, is not cancelled. Contact Diane Werblo for information on volunteering, competition or other information. See Director 5 info on last page, directorDW@indianagourdsociety.org.

As you know by now, the 2020 IGS State Gourd Show has been cancelled ... but not forgotten. All our show plans have been put on hold for this year but will be back with us in 2021. So, keep your 2020 Competition Show Book, for only the show date will change, most all the class competitions will be the same. Now you have a year to work on your entries and get ready for "Down on the Farm" on May 7-8, 2021.

Hope we will be able to get out and about soon. Stay safe and healthy!

Have a GOURD Day!

Patch Schedules May / Jun 2020

Lakeshore Gourders

Meets third Tuesdays, 10 a.m. CT at the 791 Dodge Trail (on Hwy 6), Westville unless noted

West Central Indiana Gourd Patch

Meets third Thursdays, 1:30-4:30 p.m. ET at the Hendricks Co fairgrounds in Danville

Linda's Gourd Patch

Meets third Saturdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 200 W McKenzie Rd, Greenfield at 2-4 p.m. ET For more info, contact Peggy Robertson 317-326-3854

Central Indiana Patch

Meets second Thursdays at Garfield Park Arts Center in Indy, 6-8 p.m. ET

Sugar Creek Gourd Patch Meets first Wednesdays at Thorntown Public Library, 6-8 p.m. ET

Thorn Tree Gourd Patch Meets third Wednesdays at Thorntown Public Library, 2-4 p.m. ET

All patch meetings are suspended until the COVID-19 stay-at-home is lifted

PATCH NEWS

Lakeshore Gourders (Ida Kennedy, contact)

Hello to all loyal gourders. I hope everyone is doing well and keeping busy. This has been a trying time for everyone. No one would have dreamed our country could be shut down so suddenly by a virus. I guess this makes us all think about how precious our time is, and why we shouldn't waste any of it worrying about tomorrow instead of enjoying each day. If we all do our part to keep from spreading this, we will come thru this being better people than we were before.

I am getting the urge to plant a garden already. We have had some beautiful weather for this time of the year. When I look out the window where I sit in front of my computer, I see my daffodils blooming. They remind me that life goes on.

There isn't too much gourdy stuff going on now, except to dream about all the things you would like to do with the gourds you have stockpiled. I didn't seem to have time to get much ready for our spring show, now I have extra time to work on projects for next year.

I am not sure when our next gourd patch meeting will be. We will be sure to update everyone as soon as we make a decision.

Take extra care everyone. If I can be of assistance to anyone, please let me know. I will have gourd seeds available this year.

Sugar Creek and Thorn Tree Gourd Patches (Karen Niemeyer, contact)

Both patches meet at the Thorntown Public Library, 124 N. Market St, in Thorntown. Sugar Creek meets on the first Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. ET, while the Thorn Tree Patch meets on the third Wednesday from 2-4 p.m. ET. As of this writing (March 28), it is a bit challenging to say what the schedule will be. The library is closed to normal meetings and services, such as computer use, until April 7. Patch meetings are suspended for the moment, so if anyone who does not usually attend the patch meetings is thinking of visiting, please call me first: The home number is 765-436-7518.

I go to the library each morning and evening to feed our cat Chance. This is a super time to sort and work on gourds, however. I brought in 301 dried spinner gourds but have not yet been motivated to clean them; they are happy in the garage. Outside I have a dozen large gourds that are drying nicely, but I am letting our spring rains work on them for awhile. Saw a most unusual sight yesterday—a dove perched on the top ring of my Guy Shutt bird feeder—munching away on the bird seed there. Usually the doves feed from the ground and I have never seen one up on a feeder until now. I have a gourd marked and plan to cut and glue a Guy Shuttstyle feeder, for they work splendidly. We all have a whole year to get prepared for our 2021 state gourd show, so I hope everyone is making great plans to submit entries...whether bird feeders, ornaments...or gourds with sayings and poems written on them.



Karen's Bird Feeder from Guy Shutt

Central Indiana Patch (Diane Werblo, contact)

Plans do have a way of being changed, don't they? Bitter cold caused the cancellation of our February meeting, so Mary Johnson will do that demo at a later date. In March we worked on peacocks (our patch's MITI project for IGS State Show). Our venue at Garfield Park has wisely ended all activities until further notice. Therefore, Joyce Bennett will visit us another time to demo her "leather" technique. We are suspended until it is safe for us to meet. I will continue emailing patch members and urging them to send photos to share with our group. Plan your gardens and build your wire trellises. Contact Ida Kennedy at ikennedy5@msn.com for seeds. We hope to see you at the Indiana State Fair in August.

West Central Indiana Gourd Patch (Shirley Gates, contact)

West Central Indiana Gourd Patch meetings have been cancelled due to the virus. We hope to resume again soon.

During my down time I have gotten in a little gourd time. I have stayed in my home. I feel I need to be out there doing my job in the intensive care. My kids threatened to take my car keys. I buckled under and stayed put.

One thing I can do is sew. I have been sewing up cloth face masks to help out others. It is an easy project. Another thing is Prayer. Prayer can help. Please everyone Pray.

From the Education Archives

Raised Beds - Cheap, Fast, and Easy

By Mary Gayle Van Ingen

We made four small raised beds about five feet in diameter by making circles of plastic garden edging, the kind with the rolled rim, which we riveted together at the seam and fastened to the ground with tent pegs.

We have been using them for seven or eight years, and they have held up well. They were especially nice when I had to move my gourd beds from their original location due to a neighbor's construction project blocking my sunlight.

Mary Gayle Van Ingen Milwaukie, Oregon

Central Indiana Gourd Crafters Lakeshore Gourders

Linda's Patch

Patch 4 Story Gourd Patch Sugar Creek Thorn Tree West Central Indiana Indianapolis Ridgeville Plymouth

Greenfield

West Lafayette Pendleton Thorntown Thorntown Avon Lois Wright Ida Kennedy Peggy Miller Lesa Briones Peggy Robertson Verona Clark Inactive Karen Niemeyer Karen Niemeyer Shirley Gates

Diane Werblo

317-783-1428 317-370-1418 ikennedy5@msn.com

lesalynnbriones@gmail.com 317-326-3854 765-242-1967

765-436-7518 765-436-7518 317-306-6383

From the Education Archives

Trellises: Cheap, Fast, and Easy

By Mary Gayle Van Ingen

Note: We have round and oval raised beds.

Our first trellis experience was lashing water shoots from the apple tree together into tripods and then lashing on crossbars. The only expense was a bit of string for tying. These lasted about seven years, even with standing out in the rain all winter. They did need to be retied once or twice because we used cotton string.

Our second experience was of bolting two 2 x 4s together a few inches from the ends, making an "X" with long legs. We straddled two of them over the ends of an old clothes line pole in our yard around which we made a large raised bed. We screwed in "L" hooks about 12" apart down the length of the 2 x 4s, laid bamboo poles in the "L" hooks, then laid additional poles across the ends of the first poles at right angles (the side poles support the end poles and make a square,) then lashed them together with twist ties. Cost was the cost of the four 2 x 4s, a few "L" hooks, two bolts, washers, and the bamboo poles, some of which were obtained for free from a bamboo grower's compost pile. The bamboo doesn't weather particularly well, so we bring these poles indoors. We sometimes fold down the 2 x 4s and bring them in also.

Mary Gayle Van Ingen Milwaukie, Oregon

Editor's Note—WARNING

In the article above, please do not use Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) treated lumber, sold before January 2004. It can shed arsenic into the ground contaminating it. Arsenic is a known cancer cause in humans.

Partial Index of IGS Gourd Articles

For the full list, see the website at www.indianagourdsociety.org/education.htm

Planning Your Planting Area

Small Area Gourdening (Ron Bair, 2010) 70K Raised Beds, Fast, Easy Cleanup (Mary Gayle Van Ingen, 2010) 64K Trellises, Cheap, Fast, Easy (Mary Gayle Van Ingen, 2010) 69K

Starting Your Seeds and Plants

Germinating Large or Hard Seeds (Jesse Glessner, 2011) 90K Hardshell Gourd Seed Germination (Lee & Helen Parker, 2010) 72K Germination Hints (Ron Bair, 2010) 105K One Way to Start Seeds (Acy Puckett, 2010) 68K Young Gourd Sprouts by (Ron Bair, 2010) 74K

Tending Your Plants - Watering, Fertilizing, Pest Control

For the Growing Season (Ron Bair, 2010) 73K Cucurbit Insect Management (Unknown, 2010) 66K Producing More Gourds On Vines (Jesse Glessner, 2010) 116K

ROAD TRIPS

<u>2020—courtesy of AGS</u> (www.americangourdsociety.org)

May 27-31: Cherokee Gourd Gathering, Cherokee, NC—www.gourdgathering.org
Jun 4-7: California Vision of Gourds Festival, MACC Gallery, Ranch Cordova, CA
Jun 18-20: Pennsylvania Gourd Gathering, Lebanon Expo Center and Fairgrounds www.pagourdsociety.org/pa-gourdgathering.html
Oct 22-25: Idaho (hosting AGS Annual Membership Meeting), Potomac Manor, Boise, ID
Nov 7-8: North Carolina Gourd Arts and Crafts

Festival, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC www.ncgourdsociety.org

If you plan to go to any of these events, please check the AGS website at www.americangourdsociety.org to determine if the event is still taking place

Did You Know?

Hardshell gourds (white blossoms) take 100-120 days to mature. Ornamental gourds (yellow blossoms) take 90 days to mature. Within each group, generally, the larger the gourd, the longer it takes to mature.

* * IGS Events * *

Judge Class March 21, 2020, 10 A.M. ET POSTPONED To mid-summer

IGS State Gourd Show May 1-2, 2020 CANCELLED

Indiana State Fair

August 7-23, 2020 State Fairgrounds 1202 E 38th St Indianapolis, IN 46205 [Note: The fair charges an entry fee]

IGS Membership Meeting

October 17, 2020, 10 am ET Thorntown Public Library 124 N Market St Thorntown, IN 46071 [This is an IGS Sponsored Event]

HOLD THESE DATES!

| | State Show | Membership Meeting |
|-------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 2020: | | October 17 |
| 2021: | May 7/8 | October 16 |

| Remember to inform IGS if you have a postal address, e-mail or phone change. We would like to keep our records current! | Address Change: Fill out form and mail to indicated address below. INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC. NEW RENEW ID# Membership Application DATE: 1 year \$15.00 3 year \$40.00 Patch # PLEASE PRINT (Free gift with New or 3yr Membership) NAME: |
|---|---|
| The IGS was formed and exists pursuant to the Indiana Not-for- Profit corporation statute Sect. 501 (c) (5). The corporation has never attained Sect. 501 (c) (3) status of | ADDRESS: CITY, STATE, ZIP PHONECOUNTY EMAIL |
| the Internal Revenue Code. There- fore, gifts to IGS are not deductible for income tax purposes. | DO YOU WANT ELECTRONIC <u>TENDRIL</u> ? CIRCLE YES or NO Make your CHECK payable to the INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC. MAIL TO: INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC., 691 W Veach Rd, Bloomingdale, IN 47832 Visit the IGS Web site at: www.indianagourdsociety.org |

VOLUME 28 # 3

American Gourd Society BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

The Gourd Magazine:

- Receive 4 issues/year
- Crafting tutorials
- Gourd growing articles
- FeaturedArtists
- Crafted gourd contests
- · Gourd show reviews
- Calendar of Events: Gourd shows
- Awards: Artistry & Jim Story
- Chapter News Reports

Judging Program:

- Training new Apprentice Judges, Certified Judges & Judge Instructors
- Educational materials & Record keeping
- Judging Procedures & Judging & Clerking Forms

Our Website: AmericanGourdSociety.org

- Links to State Chapters
- Link to Join by mail or online
- Growing & Harvesting: Resources & Educational
- Crafting Gourds: Resources & Educational
- Artistry & Jim Story Award Programs
- Certified Judge Training Program
- Gourd History
- The Gourd Magazine: Tables of Contents & How to order back issues
- The Calendar of Events & Gourd Show Ads
- About AGS, our Officers & Committees

Join:

- Annual membership: \$20 by mail; \$21 by PayPal
- Auto-renewal available online
- Multiple address option available
- See our website for details: www.AmericanGourdSociety.org/join

Companion Planting

Companion planting helps us support our gardens with less/no chemicals. By changing the soil chemistry and bacteria, companion plants aid each other. In addition, the scent of some plants draws or repels some insects. Interplant nasturtiums (edible flowers/leaves), sunflowers, marigolds, white geraniums, dusty miller, lavender, petunias, alyssum, bachelor's buttons, cosmos, chamomile, radishes, carrots, corn, pole beans, basil, cucumber, dill, garlic, rosemary, and thyme. Cucumber beetles are the pollinators of gourds, BUT you don't want too many of them. The herb borage is a good trap crop for aphids; when the plant is full of the little suckers, bag or burn the whole plant. You can also protect the plants from insects and sun with white floating row cover/frost blanket, but remove it when the flowers come or the insects can't pollinate.

Future Gourd Show Themes

The show committee is seeking possible themes for future state gourd shows. The goal is to have themes identified two to three years ahead of the show. The theme applies only to a limited number of competition classes. That will give us time to publicize the event and make posters for distribution at the state fair and other events throughout the year. Send your ideas to any officer or board member. See last page for addresses.

INDIANA STATE FAIR 2020 UPDATE

As of this writing (4/7/20) the State Fair is still on and "Basketball" is the theme. Contact your favorite gourd grower for basketball gourds. See our website for a list and contact info. We are sad that none of us could compete at an IGS State Show this year, but we can still plan for the State Fair.

Everyone is eligible to compete at the fair; there are no prerequisites. You don't have to be an IGS member, so get your friends involved also. There aren't as many gourd classes and they differ from the IGS State Show. Download the book at https://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/ competitions--contests/agriculturehorticulture-entry -information. Again this year, \$40 let you enter any open class in the Ag-Hort building. You will get \$78 worth of tickets. However since you aren't limited to just gourds, there are a few hundred other opportunities -- flowers, herbs, fruits, Christmas wreaths, etc. Due to the possibility of cancellation, I would advise waiting until closer to the July 1 deadline before sending the money. Plan now, laugh later!

Diane Werblo



De Stress With Art

The April 2020 "Woman's Day" magazine has a paragraph on 'De-Stress With Art.' It advises that if you are feeling overwhelmed, you might want to break out your pack of colored pencils and do some freeflowing coloring on paper or a greeting card. Gourd enthusiasts might try the same with a gourd. The article notes that this coloring will let us express emotions we can't put into words. When we create, we're using our senses and engaging in a form of problemsolving," says author Girija Kaiman, Ph.D., associate professor at Drexel University and president-elect of the American Art Therapy Association.

Contributed by Karen Niemeyer

Judge's Course

The AGS judge's class was postponed because of the COVID-19 virus. We will try to reschedule later in the summer. If you missed applying for the course and would like to join the next one, please contact Phil Moorhead (765-765-674-8088 or treasur-er@indianagourdsociety.org).

A Sign of the Times?

A display case at the Thorntown library, showing Easter-themed gourds. With the closure of libraries in the state, not even the staff can appreciate the artwork.

Ways & Means

Caps and visors: Jim Story DVD: *Gourds: From Vine to Design* book: \$12 + \$2 S/H each \$20 + \$3 S/H each \$10 + \$3 S/H each Send check payable to IGS to Phil Moorhead PO Box 822 Marion, IN 46952

VOLUME 28 # 3

THE TENDRIL P.O. BOX 822 MARION, IN 46952

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INDIANA GOURD SOCIETY, INC.

The editors reserve the right to edit any submissions for content and consistency. All contents copyrighted, see below. For permission to reprint excerpts, please contact Phil Moorhead (see below for contact info).

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Change of Addresses: Mail To: Pat Moore - Membership Secretary Indiana Gourd Society 691 W. Veach Road Bloomingdale, IN 47832 Phone: 765-597-2049 Email: membership@indianagourdsociety.org

<u>Advertising / Rates: Mail Checks to:</u> Phil Moorhead, Treasurer &

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President, Indiana Gourd Society Pat Moore 691 W. Veach Road Bloomingdale, IN 47832 Phone: 765-597-2049 Email: president@indianagourdsociety.org

<u>CHECK EXPIRATION DATE ABOVE YOUR</u> <u>ADDRESS!</u> <u>THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE</u>

All submissions welcome!

| Issue: Articles Due: | | |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| Jan/Feb | Dec 1 | |
| Mar/Apr | Feb 1 | |
| May/Jun | Apr 1 | |
| Jul/Aug | Jun 1 | |
| Sep/Oct | Aug 1 | |
| Nov/Dec | O ct 1 | |

ARTICLES MUST BE IN MS WORD OR RTF FORMAT.

Send as an attachment to your email or mail your submissions to the above address. Please send us your pictures, stories, tutorials, and anything else gourdrelated plus your suggestions for improving or inclusion in *The Tendril*. We reserve the right to edit for content, style, or to fit printing requirements

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ON ALL EMAIL ADDRESSES ABOVE, PUT indianagourdsociety.org AFTER THE @ SYMBOL